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Anti-Semitic Vandals Strike

Vandals broke out several windows and painted anti-Semitic signs and words on the Oakland Terrace Eelementary School, 2720 Plyers Mill rd., Silver Spring, over the weekend, according to Montgomery County police.

The vandalism of windows, including glass bricks and skylights, occurred late Saturday or early Sunday, they said. Also sprayed on the building were a swastika and the words "Jews Beware."

According to the principal of the school, Harry E. Diehl, the side of the building defaced is next to a wooded area and cannot be seen from the street. He said the signs may have been painted earlier but were not noticed until Monday. The glass breakage, he added, was noticed by a maintenance man Sunday afternoon.

Window breaking is a frequent problem, Diehl said, but usually air rifles are used. The breakage that occurred over the weekend was done with bricks and stones. The vandals also climbed up on the school's roof, removed one skylight and threw it to the ground. The other was broken when a rock was dropped through it.

Diehl said altogether there were 25 glass bricks and 27 panes of glass broken, in addition to the skylights.

Two years ago, according to Diehl, white paint was smeared on the school and anti-Semitic slogans were scrawled but there have been no incidents since then.